Monthly Inspection of Fire Extinguishers

If you are the lab manager or a designated person, inspecting fire extinguisher units inside your laboratory is one of your essential duties. It is extremely important that fire extinguishers be inspected monthly to ensure that they are charged and in operating condition, ready for use in case a small fire starts in your work area.

Steps:

- 1. Ensure that extinguisher is in designated location, visible, unobstructed and mounted securely on the wall.
- 2. Check the pressure on the gauge. Needle must be on **GREEN** zone.
- 3. Check that the locking pin is in place and tamper seal is not broken.
- 4. Check that the nozzle and tubing are not pinched, cracked or clogged.
- 5. Check that there is no obvious physical damage to the cylinder.
- 6. Check that the last professional service date on the hangtag is within the last 12 months.
- 7. Record date of inspection on the hangtag attached to the cylinder.
- 8. If fire extinguisher is missing, has expired tags, has been used, or is damaged, report immediately to EH&S Fire safety at 777-5269.

